

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1 1. (previously presented) A system for providing self-installing
2 software components for network service execution, comprising:
 - 3 a service host system to store network service software for a service and
4 to generate a code bundle comprising the network service software and
5 installation instructions for the network service software; and
6 a requesting system to communicate with the service host system through
7 a basic communication framework, comprising:
 - 8 a checking mechanism to remotely determine availability of the
9 network service software on the service host system and to verify prerequisites
10 against a runtime environment through the service host system;
 - 11 a helper mechanism to receive the code bundle providing the
12 network service software for the service through the service host system and to
13 install the network service software using the installation instructions; and
14 a service mechanism to provide a service of equivalent
15 functionality to the service of the service host system to one or more other
16 requesting systems that is independent of the service host system.
- 1 2. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 1, further
2 comprising:
 - 3 a set of standardized method definitions provided through a public
4 interface defined on the network service software.
- 1 3. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 2, wherein the
2 standardized method definitions are selected from the group comprising at least
3 one of an availability method, environment verification method, code retrieval
4 method, and an update method.

1 4. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the
2 network service software is updated through the service host system.

1 5. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 1, further
2 comprising:

3 an installation predicate object defined on the service host system to verify
4 that the runtime environment satisfies prerequisites necessary to install and
5 execute the network service software.

1 6. (original) A system according to Claim 5, wherein the installation
2 predicate object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution
3 within a managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 7. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 1, further
2 comprising:

3 a helper object defined on the service host system to locate and obtain
4 copies of one or more network service software components necessary to satisfy
5 one or more of the prerequisites.

1 8. (original) A system according to Claim 7, wherein the helper
2 object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution within a
3 managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 9. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 1, further
2 comprising:

3 an update object defined on the service host system to identify, retrieve
4 and install any updates to the network service software.

1 10. (original) A system according to Claim 9, wherein the update
2 object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution within a
3 managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 11. (canceled).

1 12. (canceled).

1 13. (original) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the basic
2 communication framework comprises a Java operating environment.

1 14. (previously presented) A method for providing self-installing
2 software components for network service execution, comprising:

3 storing network service software for a service on a service host system and
4 generating a code bundle comprising the network service software and installation
5 instructions for the network service software; and

6 establishing a basic communication framework between the service host
7 system and a requesting system, comprising:

8 remotely determining by the requesting system, availability of the
9 network service software by the requesting system on the service host system and
10 verifying prerequisites against a runtime environment through the service host
11 system;

12 receiving on the requesting system, the code bundle providing the
13 network service software for the service through the service host system on the
14 requesting system and installing the network service software using the
15 installation instructions; and

16 providing by the requesting system, a service of equivalent
17 functionality to the service of the service host system to one or more other
18 requesting systems that is independent of the service host system.

1 15. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 14, further
2 comprising:

3 specifying a set of standardized method definitions provided through a
4 public interface defined on the network service software.

1 16. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 15, further
2 comprising:

3 defining the standardized method definitions selected from the group
4 comprising at least one of an availability method, environment verification
5 method, code retrieval method, and an update method.

1 17. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 14, further
2 comprising:
3 updating the network service software through the service host system.

1 18. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 14, further
2 comprising:
3 defining an installation predicate object on the service host system to
4 verify that the runtime environment satisfies the prerequisites necessary to install
5 and execute the network service software.

1 19. (original) A method according to Claim 18, wherein the
2 installation predicate object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for
3 execution within a managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 20. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 14, further
2 comprising:
3 defining a helper object on the service host system to locate and obtain
4 copies of one or more network service software components necessary to satisfy
5 one or more of the prerequisites.

1 21. (original) A method according to Claim 20, wherein the helper
2 object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution within a
3 managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 22. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 14, further
2 comprising:
3 defining an update object on the service host system to identify, retrieve
4 and install any updates to the network service software.

1 23. (original) A method according to Claim 22, wherein the update
2 object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution within a
3 managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 24. (canceled).

1 25. (canceled).

1 26. (original) A method according to Claim 14, wherein the basic
2 communication framework comprises a Java operating environment.

1 27. (original) A computer-readable storage medium holding code for
2 performing the method according to Claim 14.

1 28. (previously presented) An apparatus for providing self-installing
2 software components for network service execution, comprising:

3 means for storing network service software for a service on a service host
4 system and for generating a code bundle comprising the network service software
5 and installation instructions for the network service software; and

6 means for establishing a basic communication framework between the
7 service host system and a requesting system, comprising:

8 means for remotely determining by the requesting system,
9 availability of the network service software on the service host system and for
10 verifying prerequisites against a runtime environment through the service host
11 system;

12 means for receiving on the requesting system, the code bundle
13 providing the network service software for the service through the service host
14 system and for installing the network service software using the installation
15 instructions; and

16 means for providing by the requesting system, a service of
17 equivalent functionality to the service of the service host system to one or more
18 other requesting systems that is independent of the service host system.